INTEREST INCREASE ALERT

Pursuant to pension reform legislation effective April 2, 2012, the rate of interest charged on this type of service purchase INCREASES from "buyback" interest (currently, 4.125%) to "actuarial" interest (currently, 8.25%) if you do not submit your completed service purchase application BEFORE APRIL 2, 2013.

Note: If you are a former member of a Massachusetts contributory retirement system who has re-entered membership after April 2, 2012, you will be charged buyback interest if your service purchase application is received within one year of your date of re-entry to service.

For details, and examples of buyback and actuarial interest charges, please see our website at mass.gov/mtrs.

MAIN OFFICE

One Charles Park Cambridge, MA 02142-1206 Phone 617-679-MTRS (6877) Fax 617-679-1661

WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

One Monarch Place Springfield, MA 01144-2048 Phone 413-784-1711 Fax 413-784-1707

ONLINE

mass.gov/mtrs



Instructions and application for purchasing

Out-of-state public school teaching service in the United States or Puerto Rico

INSTRUCTIONS

If you have rendered prior service as a teacher or administrator in an out-of-state public school or university in the United States or Puerto Rico, you may be eligible to purchase up to ten years of your prior service (no more than five years in Puerto Rico). Please **read** and **follow** these instructions **carefully** before completing the application.

Step 1: Determine your eligibility

1) Were you employed as a teacher or administrator in an out-of-state public school, public university, or other public day school under exclusive public control, on at least a half-time basis?	□ No
2) Was the school in the United States or Puerto Rico?	□ No
3) a) During your out-of-state service, did your employment contract require you to have the certification, licensure or other qualifications of a teacher in that school in that state?	□ No
b) Did you have such certification, licensure or other qualifications? □ Yes If "yes," please go to Question 4. If "no," your service is not eligible for purchase.	□ No
4) Based on your out-of-state service	
a) Have you already received a retirement benefit, pension, or other similar payment from the out-of-state retirement system or any other source (excluding Social Security)?	□ No
b) Are you—or will you be—eligible to receive a retirement benefit, pension, or other similar payment from the out-of-state retirement system or any other source (excluding Social Security)? Yes If "yes," please go to Question 4c. If "no," you may be eligible to purchase credit for your out-of-state school service; go to Step 2.	□ No
c) In order to purchase your out-of-state service, you must not be eligible for a benefit from your former retirement system. Accordingly, in order to purchase this service, and if your out-of-state retirement system allows, do you plan to divest from that system (withdraw or	
roll over any non-employer-contributed funds to the MTRS to pay for this purchase)?	□ No

Step 2: Review these Q&A to understand the restrictions and application process

Are there any requirements or restrictions I should know about?

Yes—if eligible, you may purchase a maximum of ten years of credit for your most recent out-of-state school service (out-of-state service means any service rendered outside of Massachusetts—including nonpublic school service prior to 1973 and overseas United States Department of Defense teaching service), subject to the following restrictions:

- In order to be eligible to apply to purchase out-of-state service, you must be a **member-in-service** of the MTRS.
- A total of no more than five of the ten years may be for public school service rendered in Puerto Rico or in an overseas dependent school supervised by the United States Department of Defense.
- You cannot purchase more than a total of ten years of creditable service for all of your out-of-state service combined.
- You must document and purchase your most recent service first. For example, if you began your public school teaching career in Vermont, and then taught in New Hampshire, and later joined a Massachusetts school district, you must purchase your eligible New Hampshire teaching service before you purchase your eligible Vermont teaching service.
- At the time of your retirement, you must have a matching year of Massachusetts membership service as a teacher in the MTRS, Massachusetts State Retirement System or Boston Retirement System. For example, if you wish to purchase three years of out-of-state public school service, three years of Department of Defense service, and four years of Massachusetts nonpublic teaching service, you must have at least ten years of Massachusetts membership service as a teacher in the MTRS, Massachusetts State Retirement System or Boston Retirement System at the time of your retirement.
- Buying your out-of-state service does not allow you to use your out-of-state salary as part of your salary average for retirement benefit calculation purposes, nor does it allow you to change your contribution rate or membership start date.
- Credit may not be purchased for any out-of-state service that was already used in the calculation or payment of a retirement benefit, or that is used in the calculation of a retirement benefit currently being paid or payable in the future under any retirement program (excluding Social Security). In other words, you cannot have credit for the same service with more than one retirement system at one time. Likewise, if you purchase your out-of-state service now, and then later become eligible to receive a retirement benefit from another system based on the service you are purchasing now, you must notify the MTRS.

How can I determine if it makes financial sense for me to purchase all—or just a portion—of my out-of-state public school service?

Depending on how much creditable service you will have at the time of retirement, purchasing your out-of-state service credit may or may not make financial sense for you. Please be aware that a retirement allowance can be no higher than 80 percent of your allowable final salary average, and a service purchase, once made, cannot be refunded. So, before you decide to purchase this service, or decide how much to purchase, please consider whether you expect to be at or near the 80 percent maximum at the time of your retirement without this purchase.

To compare your retirement benefits both *with* and *without* this service purchase, visit our website at mass.gov/mtrs and use our online estimator.

Step 3: Apply to purchase this service

If you have read and understand the Q&A in Step 2, and believe that you are eligible to apply to purchase credit for your out-of-state public school service, please:

- 1) **Complete** ALL of Part 1 of the application form, and just Section 1 of Parts 2 and 3.
- 2) For completion of the remainder of:
 - a) Part 2: Contact the payroll or business office of each of your prior out-of-state public schools in that state and explain that, for purposes of applying to purchase your out-of-state service credit, you need documentation of your service and salary. Ask an official representative to complete Part 2 and then return it to you. Please note that, if, for any reason, your school official is unable to provide your salary data, we will return Part 2 to you with instructions to request your salary data from your former retirement system, as it may be in their records.
 - b) Part 3: Contact your former retirement system(s) and explain that, for purposes of applying to purchase your out-of-state service credit, you need documentation of your prior account, if any. Ask an official representative to complete Part 3 and then return it to you.
- 3) **Make** a copy of your completed application for your records.
- 4) **Submit** your completed **original** application pages to either our main or Western Regional office (addresses on form). Please note that your application will not be accepted unless **ALL** sections are complete; if any required sections are not complete, your form will be returned to you for completion.

After we receive your completed application, we will review it, determine your eligibility to purchase the service, and, if eligible, send you an invoice. Along with your invoice, you will receive information regarding how you may pay for your purchase.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS: From the time that you begin to gather your required documentation to the time that we send you an invoice, the out-of-state service purchase process can take several months. If you are approaching retirement and you wish to purchase this service, you should be sure to complete and return your application at least six months before your date of retirement, so please plan ahead. As a reminder, service cannot be purchased after the effective date of your retirement.

Have questions or need assistance? Please don't hesitate to contact our main office at 617-679-6877. We're here to help!



Service credit purchase application

Out-of-state public school teaching service in the United States or Puerto Rico

Part 1 of 3: To be completed by applicant

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT

If you have rendered prior service as a teacher or administrator in an out-of-state public school or university in the United States or Puerto Rico, you may be eligible to purchase up to ten years (no more than five in Puerto Rico) of your prior service as creditable service toward your MTRS retirement. To apply to purchase your prior service, please:

- 1) **COMPLETE** ALL sections of Part 1, and just Section 1 of Parts 2 and 3.
- 2) For completion of the remainder of:
 - Part 2, CONTACT the payroll or business office of each of your prior out-of-state schools in that state, and ASK an official representative there to complete Part 2 and return the form to you.
 - Part 3, CONTACT your former retirement system(s), and ASK an official representative there to complete Part 3 and return the form to you.
- 3) **REVIEW** Parts 1, 2 and 3 to ensure that all have been **COMPLETED IN FULL** and signed.
- 4) MAKE a copy of your completed application for your records.
- 5) SUBMIT THE ORIGINAL PAGES OF ALL THREE PARTS of your completed application together, in the same envelope, to either our main or Western Regional office (addresses above). IF ANY PART IS NOT COMPLETE, OR IF ALL THREE PARTS ARE NOT SUBMITTED TO THE MTRS AT THE SAME TIME, YOUR APPLICATION WILL NOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL IT IS COMPLETE.

PART 1, SECTION

PPLICANT DATA]		
	a) Social Security numberXXX-XX-XXXX]		
	b) MTRS member number, if known			N	lot knov	vn
	c) Name					
	d) Former/maiden name, if applicable				Not ap	plicable
	e) Mailing address Number and street					
	City			State	ZIP	
	f) Phone number			Home	Cell	Work
	g) E-mail					
	h) Are you currently employed by a Massachusetts school district?	No	Yes. If "yes":			
	Name of current employer					
	Current MTRS employment status . Check one	Active	On an auth for not mo			sence
	i) Do you anticipate retiring within					
	the next six months?	No	Yes, approximat	e mm/yyyy		
	MTRS USE ONLY		Date	received		
orm E0031-005-11212012 n3/9						

	etirement System: Service credit purchase a aching service in the United States or Puerto		Applicant's name		
Part 1, page 2 of 3	acting service in the Officer States of Fuerto		TRS member number		
PART 1, SECTION 2					
YOUR PAST OUT-OF-STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHING	service you have already purchas	tate's service. ol teaching sessed and servi	Additionally, you m rvice rendered in all ce you are applying	other states of to purchase i	your most recent eligible or Puerto Rico—including
SERVICE	your service in chronological ord Period of service		ur most recent servio ne of former employer		Position title
	From mm/yyyy to mm/y		ool district)		T OSITION CITIE
PART 1, SECTION 3					
THE OUT-OF-STA PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHING SERVICE YOU ARE APPLYING TO PURCHASE	ii you wish to purchase additiona	rendered g to purchas h you renderd or two distric	e ed service, please co ts (#1 and #2). If yo	mplete a thro u were emplo	State or Puerto Rico ough d. oyed by more than
<u>(!)</u>	a) Name of out-of-state school d	district			
YOU MUST complete	e b) Address Numbe	er and street			
this section IN FULL.				Stat	e ZIP
If your application	c) Was any of your service rendered a	City	Yes No	Stat	e Zir
is incomplete, it	If "yes," indicate type and perio			tute/on call; fro	om/ to/
cannot be processed	d.		Long-term contract	substitute/regula	ar; from/ to/
	 d) Please provide your service de time employment (% FT). For 				
Period of service From to mm/dd/yyyy mm/dd/yyyy	Position title (e.g., math teacher, vice principal, etc.)			If yes What kind?	Did you hold this license/certification during this period?
		%	No Yes		No Yes
		%	No Yes		No Yes
		%	No Yes		No Yes
		%	No Yes		No Yes

		-	ne United States or Puerto Ri		Applica	nt's na	me			
Part 1, page 3 of 3		3			RS membe	er num	ber			
PART 1, SECTIO	ON 3									
		SCHOOL I	DISTRICT #2							
THE OUT-OF-		a) Name o	f out-of-state school dist	rict						
PUBLIC SCHO	JOL	b) Addross	Number	and atmost						
TEACHING SERVICE YOU		b) Address	Number a	ma street				7		
ARE APPLYING				City				State	ZIP	
TO PURCHAS			of your service rendered as a		Yes	No				,
Continued	_	if "yes,"	indicate type and period .	• • • • • •	-	-	ubstitute/on c tract substitute			
		d) Please p	rovide your service detai	ls below. F	•			•		
5		time em	iployment (% FT). For ex	ample, inc	licate full-	-time a	as "100%," I			
Period of servi From	ce to	Position title (e.g., math t	e teacher, vice principal, etc.)	Employme status	nt Did this require	•	on If yes		Did you he	old this
mm/dd/yyyy mm/d	dd/yyyy			(% FT)	license certifica		What kind	1 ?	license/cer during this	
				%	No	Yes			No	Yes
				0/]	
				%	No	Yes			No	Yes
				%	No	Yes			No	Yes
				%	No	Yes			No	Yes
									<u>, </u>	
YOUR OUT-O STATE RETIRE PLAN(S)	EMENT	b) Have you a retirent of "no," of Do you of "yeu you service of the first of the f	han Social Security) during the received, are you received, are you received, are you received, and the received and the received and the received are the received and the received are the received and you wish to roll comit a Direct Rollover or Trues.	ving, or wi e service lise on the other e not eligib . According om that plan	Il you be sted in Secretiremed le to purculy, in orden by closinds to the	eligiblection ent pla hase ther to pung you MTRS t	n(s)?	,	es Nes must comp	No No No lete and
PART 1, SECTION	ON 5									
APPLICANT			r-named member of the Marvice rendered in an out-of-							
STATEMENT		I wish to pu	rchase this service, I must:	have Part 2	of this app	olication	n completed b	y a represent	tative of my	prior out-
AND		that had jur	ool; have Part 3 of this appli isdiction over my prior out-o	of-state emp	loyer; and	, subm	it Parts 1, 2 a	nd 3 togethe	r to the MTF	RS at the
SIGNATURE			Additionally, I understand to the MTRS of							
Avoid delays—		one year); a	nd, pay the total amount d cirement benefit from anoth	ue before m	y date of	retirem	ent from the	MTRS. If I ev	er become e	ligible to
check your answ	vers		er the penalties of perjury the							14111172
before submittir	ng									
your application	n.	Signature	X				Date			
Form F0031-OOS-112120	12.p5/9	Name								



Form F0031-OOS-11212012.p6/9

M A I N O F F I C E One Charles Park, Cambridge, MA 02142 ■ 617-679-MTRS (6877) ■ Fax 617-679-1661

WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE One Monarch Place, Springfield, MA 01144 ■ 413-784-1711 ■ Fax 413-784-1707

Service credit purchase application

Out-of-state public school teaching service in the United States or Puerto Rico

Part 2 of 3: Section 1 to be completed by applicant
Sections 2–4 to be completed by payroll official of out-of-state school district

PART 2, SECTION 1	·		
APPLICANT DATA	a) Name of applicant		
Instructions to applicant: Please provide your personal data and then	b) Social Security numberXXX-XX-XXXX		
forward these two pages to the payroll	c) Former/maiden name, if applicable		Not applicabl
officer of each of the out- of-state school districts	d) Mailing address Number and street		
at which you rendered service for completion of	City		State ZIP
Part 2. The payroll officer will	e) Phone number		Home Cell Work
then return these completed	f) E-mail		
pages to you, and you are responsible for	g) Name of out-of-state public school system		
forwarding Parts 1, 2 and 3 together—at the same time—to the MTRS	h) Period of service mm/dd/yyyy	From	to
in order to apply to purchase this service.	INSTRUCTIONS TO PAYROLL OFFICIAL OF OU The member of the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirent credit for his or her service rendered in your public respectfully request that you please complete Part 2 1) Verify that the applicant was employed by your 2) Complete Sections 2 through 4, below, and mal 3) Return the originals of these two pages direct to submit his or her entire application—Parts 1, 2	nent System named above wish school. At this time, the member of the application, as follows: school during the period listed the acopy of these two pages for the applicant. It is then the 2 and 3 together—to the MTRS	nes to apply to purchase er and the MTRS in h, above. or your records. he applicant's responsibility
	If you have any questions about this form or our ret Thank you for your assistance to our member and u		us at 617-679-6877.
PART 2, SECTION 2			
APPLICANT'S RETIREMENT PLAN, IF ANY	Was the applicant eligible to participate in a retir Social Security (e.g., a state retirement plan, or a to which your school district made employer cor If "yes," please identify the retirement plan(s):	defined contribution plan	Yes No

Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System: Service credit purchase application Out-of-state public school teaching service in the United States or Puerto Rico	Applicant's name	
Part 2, page 2 of 2	MTRS member number	

PART 2, SECTION 3

APPLICANT'S SERVICE AND SALARY HISTORY

Please provide
COMPLETE information,
as we must receive
ALL SERVICE AND SALARY
data to process the
applicant's request.

Please report the applicant's service and salary history with your district. If additional space is needed, please make a photocopy of this sheet and **be sure to sign each additional sheet**.

- **Period of employment:** List each school year separately (for example, 1986–87 on one line, 1987–88 on another).
- Employment basis: For each period, check EITHER Permanent OR Temporary or substitute.
- Employment status: Indicate as a percentage of full-time employment (e.g., indicate full-time as "100%;" half-time, as "50%").
- Salary: For service rendered on a:
 - **Permanent basis**, list the "Annual contract rate" for that employment status (e.g., if the applicant worked on a 50% basis and, the half-time contract rate was \$24,000/year, under Annual contract rate, list \$24,000).
 - Temporary or substitute basis, list the daily or hourly "Rate of pay."

	Period of er From nm/dd/yyyy	m ployment To <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>	Number of days in contract	Number of days worked	ENT BASIS k one Temporary or substitute	Employment status As a % of full-time	SALARY Annual contract rate (if part-time, list part-time rate)	Provide EITHER Rate of pay (e.g., \$50/day or \$8/hour)	Actual gross amount paid
a)						%	\$	\$	\$
b)						%	\$	\$	\$
c)						%	\$	\$	\$
d)						%	\$	\$	\$
e)						%	\$	\$	\$

For each Period of employment listed in lines a through e, above, please provide the corresponding Position information, below.

Position title	Did this position require a license/certification? If yes, please specify the issuer (e.g., Dept. of Education)	If "yes," during this period, did the applicant hold this license/certification?
a)	No Yes; specify	No Yes
b)	No Yes; specify	No Yes
c)	No Yes; specify	No Yes
d)	No Yes; specify	No Yes
e)	No Yes; specify	No Yes

PART 2, SECTION 4

STATEMENT AND SIGNATURE OF SCHOOL DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL I certify that the information I have provided above is true and accurate.

Signature of school department official	Χ	Date	/	1	/
Name		Phone			
Title		E-mail			
Name of school		Website			
Address					



M A I N O F F I C E One Charles Park, Cambridge, MA 02142 ■ 617-679-MTRS (6877) ■ Fax 617-679-1661

WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE One Monarch Place, Springfield, MA 01144 ■ 413-784-1711 ■ Fax 413-784-1707

Service credit purchase application

Office address

Form F0031-OOS-11212012.p8/9

Out-of-state public school teaching service in the United States or Puerto Rico

Part 3 of 3: Section 1 to be completed by applicant Sections 2–4 to be completed by official of out-of-state retirement system

	Sections 2–4 to be complete	ed by official of out-of-state retirement system
PART 3, SECTION 1		
APPLICANT DATA AND RELEASE	a) Name of applicant	
Instructions to applicant : Please provide your	b) Social Security number XXX-XX-XXXX	
personal data and then forward these two	c) Former/maiden name, if applicable	☐ Not applicable
pages to the official of each of the retirement	d) Mailing address Number and street	
systems that had jurisdiction over	City	State ZIP
your periods of service for completion of Part 3.	e) Phone number	Home Cell Work
The official will then	f) E-mail	
return these completed pages to you, and you are responsible for forwarding Parts 1, 2	APPLICANT'S AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEAD, the above-named applicant, hereby authorize the account with your system, if any, to the Massach	he release of information concerning my retirement
and 3 together— at the same time— to the MTRS	Signature of applicant	X
in order to apply to purchase this service. PART 3, SECTION 2	Date	1 1
RETIREMENT SYSTEM CONTACT INFO If you have any questions about this form or our retirement system, please contact us at 617-679-6877. Thank you for your	applicant returns to service with your retire 3) After you have completed these sections, R	rement System named above wishes to apply to order the jurisdiction of your retirement system. Fully request that you please: The sember of your retirement system. For these two pages for your records. Additionally, if the ment system in the future, please notify us. ETURN THESE TWO PAGES DIRECTLY TO the sent the applicant's responsibility to submit his or her
assistance to our member and us!	Please provide the contact information of the ret	irement system official completing this form:
	Name of retirement system	Website
	Your name	Phone
	Your title	E-mail

Part 3, page 2 of 2		MTRS member number	
PART 3, SECTION 3			
APPLICANT'S HISTORY WITH YOUR SYSTEM		of your retirement system? Yes ation requested below. If additional spaced be sure to sign each additional sheet.	ce is needed, please
Period(s) of service From To mm/dd/yyyy mm/dd/y	Employer vvv	Type of plan Defined Defined DB/DC Non- benefit contribution hybrid contributory	Contributions made by Applicant Employer (check one or both)
Total amount of service cre	edit represented by all periods of service	eyears,	months
	a retirement benefit from your syst If "no," are there any conditions up	ng: Source(s) of funds withdrawn (che Employee contributions Other ceiving, or currently entitled to receive, tem? nder which the applicant would be entitled n your system in the future? Please explain	Employer contributions Yes No
	If "yes," please describe the type o	of payment:	
	Monthly benefit		
		und): Date of payment ne future retirement benefits	
	Other		
	d) While the applicant was a member purchase credit for service rendere If "yes," please list the state(s) belo	d in any other state or Puerto Rico?	Yes No
PART 3, SECTION 4			
STATEMENT AND	I certify that the information I have pr	ovided above is true and accurate.	
SIGNATURE OF RETIREMENT	Signature of retirement official X	Date	
SYSTEM OFFICIAL	Name		

Applicant's name

Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System: Service credit purchase application

Out-of-state public school teaching service in the United States or Puerto Rico